REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 11-15, 25, 27, 32-34, 66-68, and 70-72 are pending. Claims 12-14 are amended herein. No new matter is added by way of these amendments.

Applicants acknowledge that claims 11, 15, 25, 27, 32-34, 66-68, and 70-72 are allowed

Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Gaudernack (WO 92/14756), Juretic (Int. J. Cancer, 68: 471-478 (1996)), and Gedde-Dahl (Eur. J. Immunol., 23(3): 754-760 (1993)). Applicants traverse.

The Office Action states that claims 12-14 are directed to peptide fragments of SEO ID NO: 15. However, claims 12-14 were amended in the Amendment and Reply dated February 26, 2007 to recite SEQ ID NO: 14. Accordingly, the cited art will be discussed with respect to SEQ ID NO: 14. The claims as amended herein recite fragments of SEQ ID NO: 14 that include the amino acid moiety Xaa₁. None of the cited references discloses a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 14 that includes Xaa1. Therefore, the cited references do not anticipate the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 31, 2007